The Pedigreed Fruit Tree Argument

Summarizing his argument in favor of pedigreed trees J. Moncrief, Winfield, Kan-

sas, says: Now in conclusion of the discussion regarding the pro and con of pedigreed trees, I want to call to your attention that the in-I want to call to your attention that the in-westigation of the potato and citrus fruits and the deciduous fruits, one and all, bear out each other and lead to the same conclu-sion and that the propagation of none of these are from seed, or by sexual propaga-tion, or a chip out of the block itself.

We might have gone into a long line of other similar improvements in corn, cereals of all kinds, cotton and forestry trees grown

other similar improvements in corn, cereals of all kinds, cotton and forestry trees grown from seed, but if it is true of plants grown from seed with that variation, which we must all know exists in reproduction from seed, how much more true and exact is it in the production of fruit trees where the work is done by budding and grafting, or a chip from the mother tree itself.

I do not know of another nursery growing deciduous fruits such as apple and peach by pedigreed methods, but I hope to see the day when the nursery business will be revolutionized and you planters will demand pedigreed trees. The time will not come until men go into nursery business for the love of the work, rather than drift in it for the dollars and cents they can make out of it.

Pessibly many of you think from reading advertisements that the majority of the trees that you plant are grown by this selective plan. I do not think that I could exaggerate when I tell you that I believe 98%, if not more, of the apple and peach trees that are planted today, are planted not only from unknown parentage, but from trees that have been bred from, perhaps, the poorest types for thirty or forty years. For as long as people buy fruit trees from the cord wood measurement rather than from the efficient or pedigreed measurement, just so long you will say to the nurseryman, go ahead growling trees on the wrong principle. will say to the nurseryman, go ahead growing trees on the wrong principle.

Now the nurseryman has not made big money by these methods for he has sold his trees so cheaply that he did not profit. What you should do is to organize a tree testing club, just as the dairymen have organized the cow testing club at Abilene, Kan., and as they expect to eliminate the drone cows by the Babcock test, you can eliminate your drone trees by the pedigreed

Good Business Advice

Nurserymen and fruit growers have common interests. The success of the former insures the best stock for orchard planting. The success of the latter insures added demand for that stock. At a recent meeting of fruit growers a placard read: "Are you for co-operation and success or competition and loss?"

Here is good practical advice recently given to Michigan fruitgrowers:

Wake up, man! Your cattle wouldn't pay any more than your trees do if you fed them cally when you felt like it. Have a program for caring for your orchard, and you will

No business succeeds without intelligent co-operation with like interests, and nowhere is co-operation more necessary than with the fruit grower.

You have heard that "the farmer cannot be organized." I tell you, "he can, and he must." Other communities are doing it; so can you. Get together. Buy your spraying material and your packages by the car

Get together and adopt a standard for your goods. Get a label for a distinction rark of some kind for your produce, and then send someone out to sell your stuff.

Keen away from the big, overgrown and overcrowded markets. Find your customers in the medium sized vices the residence.

in the medium-sized places; then, ship your cars to these places.

Treat the people to such an honest pack that they will come back for more the next

It can be done; it is being done by others, and you should get into line. There are thousands of people who want good fruit, and who do not mind the prices.

Tomato Possibilities

In the markets and probably by most persons tomatoes are classed as vegetables. But Webster's dictionary says the tomato is a solanaceous plant native of the tropics but everywhere cultivated for its fruit; and refers to its "large rounded or oblate fruit which is red or yellow when ripe."

Remedies for "Damping Off"

Commercial sulphuric acid has been found by the United States Department of Agriculture to be an effective remedy for the loss of pine and spruce seedlings from "damping off." It is quite common for the soft tissues of these young seedlings to decay so rapidly soon after sprouting that they disappear sometimes before the nurseryman knows that there is anything the matter with them. So common indeed is loss from this source that many nurserymen import their seedling stock from Europe. This, however, is not only troublesome, but dangerous. The white pine blister rust has already been introduced into this country in this way and continued importations of seedlings are certain to result in the establishment in the United States of other foreign pests.

For this reason the Department attaches much importance to the recent investigations of possible disinfecting agents which will rid the soil of the parasitic fungi which cause "damping off". Of these agents the most satisfactory for commercial use in the majority of cases has been found to be sulphuric acid. Treatment with this acid not only reduces losses from "damping off" but increases germination. For particulars write to the Department.

A friend in the U.S. A. sends us copy of daily paper, the Dayton Daily News, which must be almost unique. The whole of this special issue is devoted to the promotion of special issue is devoted to the promotion of a crusade to beautify the city, by gardens, window boxes, tree planting, etc., and description of the methods of planning, planting, etc. All the space thus filled is taken up by advertisements of the local nurserymen, showing they fully grasp the practical outcome of a movement of this kind. Why is not the cry of the "city beautiful" more often heard among us, with a nurseryman or two leading the agitation?—Horticultural Advertiser, London, Eng.

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